



## *Proclamation* *Presented*

### **In Recognition of Leilani Alama Hula Studio**

**WHEREAS**, Leilani Alama started teaching hula classes for her Kumu Hula, Emma Kahelelani Moniz Bishop, when she was 15 years old; in 1943 she opened her own hula studio and has been teaching classes in the same location in Kaimuki all these years; and

**WHEREAS**, Leilani Alama, from the 1940s to 1970s, was a producer, director and coordinator of Aloha Week celebrations; she secured some of the top performers to donate their time to perform at Aloha Week events, including Johnny Alameida and Alfred Apaka, two of the most popular interpreters of contemporary Hawaiian music, or music which blended Hawaiian music with traditional pop music arrangements and English lyrics to convey Polynesian imagery and themes; and

**WHEREAS**, Leilani Alama served as Aloha Week Queen in 1957, and was the first "Ambassador of Aloha Week" to go to the Seafair in Seattle, Washington; and

**WHEREAS**, Leilani Alama's legacy as a Kumu Hula includes teaching hula to more than 300 students during the 1950s and 1960s at Barber's Point Naval Air Station; and

**WHEREAS**, Leilani Alama and her sister, Puanani Alama, performed in the first Na Hula o Hawai'i Festival held in 1940 for the City and County of Honolulu, and have continued to do so for the past 73 years, along with students from the Leilani Alama Hula Studio and the Puanani Alama Hula Studio; and

**WHEREAS**, Leilani Alama has had a successful solo hula career entertaining in Waikiki, and at clubs on military bases for Non-Commissioned Officers (NCOs) and enlisted personnel; and

**WHEREAS**, Leilani Alama and Puanani Alama were recommended by the Hula Preservation Society to be honored with the "I Ola Mau Ka Hula" Award from the Hula Grill Restaurant in Waikiki on October 6, 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, Leilani Alama Hula Studio will be celebrating its 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the Na Hula o Hawai'i at the Kapi'olani Park on August 4, 2013;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor** for the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim August 4, 2013 as

### **"LEILANI ALAMA HULA STUDIO DAY"**

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in congratulating the Leilani Alama Hula Studio on its 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and in recognizing Leilani Alama for her contributions to culture and the arts.

**DONE** at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this eighth day of July 2013.

  
NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

  
SHAN S. TSUTSUI  
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i